

1 Claims

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3 1. A method of forming a line on a ground surface
4 comprising the steps of:
5 forming one or more slits in the ground
6 surface; inserting a line of material in the or
7 each slit such that part of the material is
8 visible above the ground surface.

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10 2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the or
11 each slit is formed by a cylindrical blade.

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13 3. A method as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the
14 blade has a sharpened or tapered edge.

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16 4. A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3
17 wherein the surface is wholly or substantially
18 earth.

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20 5. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
21 claims wherein the method comprises forming
22 between two and four slits.

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24 6. A method as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the
25 method comprises forming three slits.

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27 7. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
28 claims wherein a plurality of slits are formed,
29 and the inter-distance between the slits is
30 between 10-40 mm.

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- 1 8. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
2 claims wherein the surface is rolled after the
3 insertion of the or each line of material.
4
- 5 9. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
6 claims wherein that part of the material
7 visible above the ground surface comprises
8 discrete fibres.
9
- 10 10. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
11 claims wherein the material is inserted in the
12 slit by travel on the slit-forming means.
13
- 14 11. A method as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the
15 material travels on the edge of the slit-
16 forming means towards and into the surface.
17
- 18 12. A method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the
19 material is located in the slit by travel on
20 the slit-forming means as the slit is being
21 formed.
22
- 23 13. A method as claimed in any one of claims 10 to
24 12 wherein the material is folded over the edge
25 of the slit-forming means.
26
- 27 14. A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein the
28 material is folded equally on either side of
29 the edge of the slit-forming means along a
30 longitudinal central axis of the material.
31

- 1 15. A method of forming a line on a ground surface
2 comprising the steps of:
3 locating a slit-forming means having at least
4 one blade on the ground surface, such that a
5 portion of the blade enters the ground surface;
6 locating a fibrous or woven material on each
7 blade;
8 traversing the slit forming means along the
9 path of the intended line;
10 allowing the material to travel with each blade
11 into the ground;
12 leaving the material in each slit formed such
13 that part of the material is visible above the
14 ground surface.
15
- 16 16. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding
17 claims, wherein the method further comprises
18 forming a straight line on a ground surface
19 comprising the further steps of:
20 locating a light beam at one end of the line to
21 be formed;
22 following the path of the beam.
23
- 24 17. A method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the
25 light beam is a laser beam.
26
- 27 18. A vented fabric material suitable for use in
28 forming a line on a ground surface according to
29 the method as defined in any one of claims 1-
30 17.
31

1 19. A material as claimed in Claim 18 comprising a
2 woven material having a core woven section and
3 free weft fibres on each side.
4

5 20. A material as claimed in Claim 19 wherein that
6 part of the material which is intended to be
7 visible above the ground surface in use to form
8 the line is partially or substantially the free
9 weft fibres.
10

11 21. A material as claimed in any one of claims 18
12 to 20 wherein at least that part of the
13 material intended to be visible above the
14 ground surface in use is partially or
15 substantially resistant to sunlight, in
16 particular UV light.
17

18 22. A material as claimed in any one of claims 18
19 to 21 wherein the material is at least partly
20 open or has an open structure, through which
21 the ground under the ground surface, or
22 anything growing in the ground under the ground
23 surface, can traverse therethrough.
24

25 23. A material as claimed in any one of claims 18
26 to 22 wherein the material is a polymer
27 material.
28

29 24. A material as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the
30 material is a polypropylene.
31

- 1 25. A material as claimed in Claim 24 wherein the
2 material is polypropylene with a solid centre
3 line and weft tapes.
4
- 5 26. A material as claimed in any one of claims 18
6 to 25 wherein the material is a geotextile.
7
- 8 27. A process for forming a vented fabric material
9 as defined in any one of claims 18 to 26,
10 wherein lines of weft material are run, and
11 intermittent lines of warp fibres are run
12 thereinbetween, so as to form portions of woven
13 material and portions of weft fibre material
14 only.
15
- 16 28. A process in claimed in Claim 27 wherein the
17 so-formed material is cut across each weft
18 fibre portion to create a vented fabric
19 material as defined in any one of claims 18 to
20 26.
21
- 22 29. A line on a ground surface whenever formed by a
23 method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17.
24
- 25 30. A line on a ground surface whenever formed by a
26 material as claimed in any one of claims 18 to
27 26.
28
- 29 31. A line-forming apparatus, which apparatus
30 comprises one or more rotatable blades, each
31 blade being adapted to form a slit in the

1 ground surface, and adapted to feed around its
2 edge a material for partially inserting into
3 the slit.

4

5 32. Apparatus as claimed in claim 31 further
6 including a roller following the or each blade
7 along the ground surface.

8

9 33. Apparatus claimed in claim 31 or claim 32
10 wherein the apparatus comprises three offset
11 and parallel rotatable blades, each having an
12 associated material-feeding means.

13

14 34. Apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 31 to
15 33 wherein the apparatus further comprises a
16 light beam or a light beam receptor, and
17 wherein the apparatus follows the line of a
18 light beam either directly or via the receptor
19 to form a straight line.

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